

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. An electronic device comprising:
a mechanical driving member which performs
mechanical operations;
5 a first system controller which controls the
overall device including said mechanical driving member;
and
a second system controller, which controls a part
of the device, operating independently of said first
10 system controller,
wherein in accordance with turning on of power
supply to said first system controller, said second
system controller controls said mechanical driving
member in parallel to a control preparatory operation
15 for control on the overall device by said first system
controller.
2. The electronic device according to claim 1,
wherein said first system controller is a central
20 processing unit, and wherein in said control preparatory
operation, immediately after turning on of the power
supply to said first system controller, said first
system controller starts an OS (Operation System), and
operates a control application program.
- 25 3. The electronic device according to claim 1,

wherein if the completion of the control preparatory operation has not been notified within a predetermined period from said first system controller since the turning on of the power supply to said first system controller, said second system controller returns said first system controller to a status before the power supply was turned on to said first system controller, and turns off the power supply to said first system controller.

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4. The electronic device according to claim 1, wherein said predetermined period is longer than a period from turning on of the power supply to said first system controller to normal completion of the control preparatory operation by said first system controller.

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5. The electronic device according to claim 1, further comprising an operation unit which inputs an operation instruction to the electronic device,

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wherein if no operation instruction has been inputted by said operation unit within a predetermined period, said second system controller returns said mechanical driving member to a status before the power supply was turned on to said first system controller, and turns off the power supply to said first system controller.

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6. The electronic device according to claim 1,
wherein said second system controller is a central
processing unit and is always powered.

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7. The electronic device according to claim 6,
wherein said second system controller controls the power
supply to said first system controller.

10 8. The electronic device according to claim 1,
wherein said second system controller is a hard-wired
logic circuit.

9. The electronic device according to claim 1,
15 wherein said first system controller has a processing
speed faster than that of said second system controller.

10. The electronic device according to claim 1,
wherein electric consumption of said second system
20 controller is lower than that of said first system
controller.

11. The electronic device according to claim 1,
wherein the electronic device is a digital still camera.

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12. The electronic device according to claim 11,

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wherein said mechanical driving member includes a lens barrier which protects the optical system of the digital still camera.

5 13. The electronic device according to claim 12,
a) wherein said second system controller opens said lens barrier in parallel to the control preparatory operation on the overall device by said first system controller.

10 14. The electronic device according to claim 11,
wherein said mechanical driving member includes a collapsible barrel of the digital still camera.

15 15. The electronic device according to claim 14,
wherein said second system controller extends said collapsible barrel in parallel to the control preparatory operation on the overall device by said first system controller.

20 16. The electronic device according to claim 1,
wherein the electronic device has an in-use status and a non-use status different from each other, and wherein said second system controller controls said mechanical driving member in parallel to the control preparatory
25 operation on the overall device by said first system controller, so as to cause the device to enter the in-

use status from the non-use status.

17. The electronic device according to claim 16,
wherein the electronic device is a digital still camera
5 and comprises an image sensing lens as said mechanical
driving member.

18. The electronic device according to claim 17,
wherein when the device is not used, the device is in an
10 image sensing disabled status in which said image
sensing lens is collapsed into a camera main body.

19. The electronic device according to claim 17,
wherein when the device is used, the device is in an
15 image sensing enabled status in which said image sensing
lens is extended from a camera main body to a wide-angle
side position.

20. The electronic device according to claim 17,
20 wherein said mechanical driving member includes a lens
barrier which protects said image sensing lens.

21. The electronic device according to claim 20,
wherein when the device is used, the device is in an
25 image sensing enabled status in which the lens barrier
which protects said image sensing lens is opened.

22. The electronic device according to claim 20,
wherein when the device is not used, the device is in a
image sensing disabled status in which the lens barrier
5 which protects said image sensing lens is closed.

23. A method for controlling an electronic device
having a mechanical driving member which performs
mechanical operations and a system controller which
10 controls the overall device including said mechanical
driving member, said method comprising:

a preparatory step of performing a control
preparatory operation for control on the overall device
by said system controller, in accordance with turning on
15 of power supply to said system controller; and

a mechanical drive step of controlling said
mechanical driving member in parallel to said
preparatory step.

20 24. The method according to claim 23, wherein said
system controller is a central processing unit, and
wherein at said preparatory step, an OS (Operating
System) is started and a control application program is
operated after turning on of the power supply to said
25 system controller.

25. The method according to claim 23, further comprising:

a step of returning said mechanical driving member to a status before the power supply was turned on to said system controller if the completion of the control preparatory operation has not been notified from said system controller within a predetermined period since turning on of power supply to said system controller; and

a step of turning off the power supply to said system controller.

26. The method according to claim 23, wherein said predetermined period is longer than a period from turning on of power supply to said system controller to normal completion of the control preparatory operation by said system controller.

27. The method according to claim 23, wherein the electronic device further comprises an operation unit which inputs an operation instruction to the electronic device,

the method further comprising:

a step of returning said mechanical driving member to a status before the power supply was turned on to said system controller if no operation instruction has

been inputted within a predetermined period; and
a step of turning off the power supply to said
system controller.

a/ 5 28. The method according to claim 23, wherein the
electronic device is a digital still camera.

29. The method according to claim 28, wherein said
mechanical driving member includes a lens barrier which
10 protects an optical system of the digital still camera,
and wherein at said mechanical drive step, said lens
barrier is opened.

30. The method according to claim 28, wherein said
15 mechanical driving member includes a collapsible barrel
of the digital still camera, and wherein at said
mechanical drive step, said collapsible barrel is
extended.

20 31. The method according to claim 23, wherein the
electronic device has an in-use status and a non-use
status different from each other, and wherein at said
mechanical drive step, control to cause the device to
enter the in-use status from the non-use status is
25 performed.

32. The method according to claim 31, wherein the electronic device is a digital still camera, and comprises an image sensing lens as said mechanical driving member.

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33. The method according to claim 32, wherein when the electronic device is not used, the device is in the non-use status in which said image sensing lens is collapsed in a camera main body.

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34. The method according to claim 32, wherein when the electronic device is used, the device is in the in-use status in which said image sensing lens is extended from a camera main body to a wide-angle side position.

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35. The method according to claim 32, wherein said mechanical driving member includes a lens barrier which protects said image sensing lens.

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36. The method according to claim 35, wherein when the electronic device is used, the device is in the in-use status in which the lens barrier which protects said image sensing lens is opened.

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37. The method according to claim 35, wherein when the electronic device is not used, the device is in the non-

use status in which the lens barrier which protects said image sensing lens is closed.

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38. A computer program product comprising a computer
5 usable medium having computer readable program code means embodied in said medium for controlling an electronic device having a mechanical driving member which performs mechanical operations and a system controller which controls the overall device including
10 said mechanical driving member, said product including:

first computer readable program code means of preparatory step for performing a control preparatory operation for control on the overall device by said system controller, in accordance with turning on of
15 power supply to said system controller; and

second computer readable program code means of mechanical drive step for controlling said mechanical driving member in parallel to said preparatory step.

20 39. The computer program product according to claim 38, wherein the electronic device has an in-use status and a non-use status different from each other, and wherein at said mechanical drive step, control to cause the device to enter the in-use status from the non-use status is
25 performed.

40. An image sensing apparatus comprising:
image sensing means for converting an optical
image of an object to electric signals and outputting
the electric signals;

5 mechanical drive means for driving a mechanical
component of the image sensing apparatus;

signal processing means for generating image
signals by processing the electric signals outputted
from said image sensing means;

10 file system means for storing the image data
generated by said signal processing means to a storage
medium; and

control means for simultaneously starting
initialization of said mechanical drive means, said
15 signal processing means, and said file system means in
response to turning on of the image sensing apparatus.

41. The image sensing apparatus according to
claim 40, wherein initialization of said file system
20 means controlled by said control means includes an
operation of obtaining information on said storage
medium from said storage medium.

42. The image sensing apparatus according to
25 claim 41, wherein the information in said storage medium
includes at least one of storage medium type, entire

capacity of the storage medium, capacity in current use,
current available capacity, the file format, current
latest file information.

5 43. The image sensing apparatus according to
claim 40, wherein said mechanical drive means includes
at least either of a lens drive unit or a exposure drive
unit.

10 44. The image sensing apparatus according to
claim 40, wherein said control means adopts by a real
time multi task monitoring system for performing various
initialization operation.

15 45. The image sensing apparatus according to
claim 41, wherein said control means simultaneously
performs the initialization by performing data
transmission from said storage medium by said file
system means at the initialization by direct memory
20 access (DMA), and performing initialization of said
mechanical drive means and signal processing means
during idle time of the DMA.